

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend the claims to read:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Previously presented) A composition comprising a sago starch having a water fluidity of from about 40 to about 80 and water.
10. (Original) The composition of claim 9 having at least about the same gel strength as a composition comprising 30% more of a comparable WF corn starch.
11. (Original) The composition of claim 9 having at least about the same gel strength as a composition comprising 50% more of a comparable WF corn starch.

12. (Original) The composition of claim 9 having at least about the same gel strength as a composition comprising 100% more of a comparable WF corn starch.
13. (Original) The composition of claim 9 having a gel strength which is about 100% greater than a composition comprising a comparable WF corn fluidity starch.
14. (Original) The composition of claim 9 having a gel strength which is about 200% greater than a composition comprising a comparable WF corn fluidity starch.
15. (Original) The composition of claim 9 having a gel strength which is about 250% greater than a composition comprising a comparable WF corn fluidity starch.
16. (Original) The composition of claim 9, wherein the composition is selected from the group consisting of food products, personal care products, pharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals, paper products, agricultural products, paints, paper board products, gypsum board products, and textile warp sizings.
17. (Original) The composition of claim 9, wherein the composition is selected from the group consisting of confectioneries, noodles, puddings, custards, flans, fillings, imitation cheeses, cheese products, toppings, icings, imitation fish, imitation poultry, imitation meat, starch balls, yogurts, spreads, gelled desserts, jellies, and egg products.
18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously presented) A method for increasing the gel strength of a composition comprising adding sago starch having a water fluidity of from about 40 to about 80 to the composition.
20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the composition has at least about the same gel strength as a composition comprising 30% more of a comparable WF corn starch.
21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the composition has about the same gel strength as a composition comprising 50% more of a comparable WF corn starch.
22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the composition has at least about the same gel strength as a composition comprising 100% more of a comparable WF corn starch.
23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the composition has a gel strength which is about 100% greater than a composition comprising a comparable WF corn fluidity starch.
24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the composition has a gel strength which is about 200% greater than a composition comprising a comparable WF corn fluidity starch.
25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the composition has a gel strength which is about 250% greater than a composition comprising a comparable WF corn fluidity starch.

- 26.(Previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the composition is selected from the group consisting of food products, personal care products, pharmaceuticals, nutraceuticals, paper products, agricultural products, paints, paper board products, gypsum board products, and textile warp sizings.
- 27.(Previously presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the composition is selected from the group consisting of confectioneries, noodles, puddings, custards, flans, fillings, imitation cheeses, cheese products, toppings, icings, imitation fish, imitation poultry, imitation meat, starch balls, yogurts, spreads, gelled desserts, jellies, and egg products.
28. (New) A composition comprising a starch, wherein the starch consists essentially of a sago starch having a water fluidity of from about 40 to about 80 and water.
29. (New) The composition of claim 28 having at least about the same gel strength as a composition comprising 30% more of a comparable WF com starch.
30. (New) A method for increasing the gel strength of a composition comprising adding a starch consisting essentially of sago starch having a water fluidity of from about 40 to about 80 to the composition.
31. (New) The method of claim 30 wherein the composition has at least about the same gel strength as a composition comprising 30% more of a comparable WF com starch.

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 9-17 and 19-27 were pending.

Claims 9-15 and 19-25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Eden, et al (US 4,874,628).

Claims 9, 16, 17, 19, 26 and 27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Eden, et al (US 4,874,628) in view of Jeffcoat, et al. (US 6,488,980), Park (US 4,784,871), or Yuan (US 6,017,388).

New claims 28-31 have been added.

Claims 9-17 and 19-31 are presented for reconsideration.